

BOCAGIANA

Museu Municipal do Funchal

Madeira

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No. 39

ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF ACROTRICHIS SANCTAEHELENAE JOHNSON (COL., PTILIIDAE)

By Colin Johnson *

Acrotrichis (Ctenopteryx) sanctaehelenae was recently described (Johnson 1972: 94-5) on a series of specimens collected during 1965 and 1967 high up in the mountains of St. Helena. Because the species had not been encountered by Wollaston in his researches prior to 1877, it was thought that the species was an introduction, perhaps from South America, where this group seems to be best represented. Quite a lot of additional material has now come to hand, which sheds more light on the matter.

A. matthewsi (Wollaston) was recorded from the Azores by Méquignon (1942: 27), and although this material had not been seen by the present writer, the record was considered to be erroneous (Johnson 1970: 69). Of late I have been able to study three of Méquignon's specimens, which he collected at Furnas during 1930; these are not *matthewsi*, as believed, but are *sanctaehelenae*.

During July 1970, my colleague Dr. H. Coiffait sent me a number of *Acrotrichis* which he had collected near Faro, southern Portugal. Amongst some fairly common species were found two males and eleven females of *sanctaehelenae*. Since then my friend Alex Williams has met with the species commonly in the Atlantic islands. In May 1971, 125 specimens were sieved from rotting cacti and vegetable refuse at Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, whilst he found a further 47 specimens by sieving leafmould at Funchal, Madeira, during April 1972. It seems likely that the species recorded by Sundt (1963: 27-8) as near to *grandicollis*

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(Mannerheim), from Funchal, 9-16.VI.1957, is probably also the present species.

Thus in the present state of our knowledge, *sanctahelenae* seems to be truly an Atlantic species.

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No. 9

NOTES ON TWO MADEIRA PLANTS

By N. C. H. KRAUSS ¹

The composite plant «Abundância» (*Eupatorium adenophorum* Spreng.) has been known in Madeira for many years. On July 24, 1962 I collected a second species of *Eupatorium*, *E. riparium* Schultz-Bip., confirmed by the Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, England. This was growing in association with *E. adenophorum* in a damp area along a path near Monte. Both these species of *Eupatorium* are native to Mexico. I have seen *E. riparium* growing along a small stream in a ravine at the Desierto de los Leones, Distrito Federal, in the hills above Mexico City. Both species are pests in grazing land in Hawaii.

On November 7, 1960 I collected specimens of *Ulex minor* Roth (determined by Royal Botanic Garden, Kew) in the grassy hills above Ribeiro Frio. Since then I have seen it also at Encumeada and Santo da Serra. *Ulex europaeus* L. has been known in Madeira for a long time, but I have not seen any records of *U. minor*.

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